



# ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

November 14, 2016

- Boston University
- Brandeis University
- Brown University
- California Institute of Technology
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- Emory University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Harvard University
- Indiana University
- Iowa State University
- The Johns Hopkins University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- McGill University
- Michigan State University
- New York University
- Northwestern University
- The Ohio State University
- The Pennsylvania State University
- Princeton University
- Purdue University
- Rice University
- Rutgers University – New Brunswick
- Stanford University
- Stony Brook University –
- State University of New York
- Texas A&M University
- Tulane University
- University at Buffalo –
- State University of New York
- The University of Arizona
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Irvine
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of California, San Diego
- University of California, Santa Barbara
- The University of Chicago
- University of Colorado, Boulder
- University of Florida
- University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- The University of Iowa
- The University of Kansas
- University of Maryland, College Park
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- University of Missouri, Columbia
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Oregon
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Rochester
- University of Southern California
- The University of Texas at Austin
- University of Toronto
- University of Virginia
- University of Washington
- University of Wisconsin - Madison
- Vanderbilt University
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Yale University

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
 Speaker of the House  
 United States House of  
 Representatives  
 Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
 Democratic Leader  
 United States House of Representatives  
 Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
 Majority Leader  
 United States Senate  
 Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid  
 Democratic Leader  
 United States Senate  
 Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leaders McConnell, Pelosi, and Reid:

On behalf of the Association of American Universities, an association of 60 leading U.S. research universities, I write to thank you for passing the short-term continuing resolution (H.R. 5325) through December 9<sup>th</sup> as we requested, and to urge passage of an omnibus or series of appropriations bills to complete the FY17 appropriations process in this Congress.

Avoiding a year-long continuing resolution and completing the FY17 appropriations process will allow enactment of key decisions already made by the appropriators to strengthen our country. For example, the House and Senate appropriations bills propose funding increases for the National Institutes of Health, the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, as well as for the Department of Energy’s Office of Science, ARPA-E, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Senate Appropriations Committee proposes restoring the year-round Pell Grant, which would improve time to degree for more than a million low-income students. Additionally, the House Appropriations Committee proposes vital funding increases for NASA’s science, aeronautics, and space technology programs. All these proposed funding increases would help prevent an innovation deficit and ensure the U.S. remains the global innovation leader.

In addition, we respectfully request renewed attention be given to increasing investments in the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense Science and Technology programs, and the Department of Education’s Institute for Education Sciences and the Title VI international education and Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need programs.

The attached table outlines AAU’s recommended FY17 funding levels for all the aforementioned programs and other federal scientific research and higher education programs important to our nation’s economic and national security.

Thank you for considering our views as you seek to finalize the FY17 appropriations process.

Sincerely,

Mary Sue Coleman  
 President

CC: The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, House Majority Leader  
The Honorable Steve Scalise, House Majority Whip  
The Honorable Steny Hoyer, House Democratic Whip  
The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers, House Majority Conference Chair  
The Honorable James Clyburn, House Assistant Democratic Leader  
The Honorable Luke Messer, House Majority Policy Committee Chair  
The Honorable Xavier Becerra, House Democratic Caucus Chair  
The Honorable John Cornyn, Senate Majority Whip  
The Honorable Dick Durbin, Senate Democratic Whip  
The Honorable John Thune, Senate Majority Conference Chair  
The Honorable John Barrasso, Senate Majority Policy Committee Chair  
The Honorable Chuck Schumer, Senate Democratic Policy Committee Chair  
The Honorable Roy Blunt, Senate Majority Conference Vice Chair  
The Honorable Patty Murray, Senate Democratic Conference Secretary  
Members of the House Appropriations Committee  
Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee

## AAU FY17 Appropriations Recommendations

	<b>AAU Recommendation (in millions)</b>
<b>Department of Education</b>	
Pell Grant Maximum Grant ( <i>in thousands</i> )	\$5,935
Federal Work Study	\$990
SEOG	\$757
GEAR UP	\$345
TRIO	\$960
GAANN	\$31
International Ed Programs	\$76
ARPA-ED	\$50
First In the World	\$100
Institute of Education Sciences	\$618
<b>National Institutes of Health</b>	\$34,084
<b>National Science Foundation</b>	\$7,509
<b>NASA</b>	
Science	\$5,597
Aeronautics	\$712
Space Technology	\$739
<b>Department of Agriculture</b>	
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	\$375
<b>Department of Energy</b>	
Office of Science	\$5,400
ARPA-E	\$325
<b>Department of Defense</b>	
6.1 Basic Research	\$2,532
<b>National Endowment for the Humanities</b>	\$150